

Postal Regulatory Commission

Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

NOTICE OF FILING UNDER 39 U.S.C. § 404(d)

TO THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE:

Please take notice that the Commission received two petitions for review of the Postal Service's determination to close the Pace post office located in Pace, Mississippi. The first petition for review received November 3, 2011, was filed by Robert LeFlore, Sr., Mayor. The second petition for review received November 7, 2011, was filed by Curtissia W. Allen. The earliest postmark date is October 18, 2011.

This notice is advisory only and is being furnished so that the Postal Service may begin assembling the administrative record in advance of any formal appeal proceedings held upon the alleged (closing/consolidation) for transmittal pursuant to 39 CFR § 3001.113(a) (requiring the filing of the record within 15 days of the filing with the Commission of a petition for review). The Postal Service's administrative record is due no later than November 18, 2011.



Shoshana M. Grove
Secretary

Date: November 15, 2011

Attachment

A2012-50

TOWN OF PACE

Post office Box 216
Pace, Mississippi 38764
662-723-6292 - Fax: 662-723-6198

Robert LeFlore, Sr., Mayor
Aelicia Thomas, Attorney
Curtissia W. Allen, Town Clerk
Leguster Watkins, Police Chief
William Evans, Maintenance Superintendent

RECEIVED
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Toshisunda K. Brown
2011 NOV 3 11:49
Linda Hall
Benny Hamilton
Beverly Shelly
Harry D. Walker, Vice Mayor
POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

October 25, 2001

Postal Regulatory Commission
Attention: Ann Fisher
Director of Government Relations
901 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

Received

OCT 31 2011

Office of PAGR

RE: Appeal the Closing of Pace, MS :Post Office

Dear Ms. Fisher:

I am appealing the Postal Service's decision to close the Pace Post Office.

Closing the Pace Post Office will definitely have a negative effect on Pace's economy as well as costing it's citizens many times over the \$52,479.00 annual savings quoted by the Postal Service in it's letter of Final Determination to Close the Pace Post Office.

The injustice here is that the Post Office, a critically needed service in the community, is being taken from the poorest and neediest citizens in the Mississippi Delta, the poorest region in the nation. Pace is comprised largely of elderly citizens, transfer payment recipients, low-income residents, many of which do not own automobiles. These individuals will spend a substantial amount of their disposable income on gasoline going to the Post Office out of town in Cleveland, paying utilities and making other payments by purchasing money orders from the postal service, simply because they don't know how to otherwise, this is the way they have always done business. Most of these people do not have access to computers, nor would they use them if they did because they just don't trust them. Computers is a new technology that none of the elderly will ever use. These people are set in their ways and not likely to change.

The Post Office is an institution in Pace. It is the only establishment where race relations are practice somewhat successfully. The races meet and greet each other at the post office several times a week, pick up their mail, carry on conversations about the community, pay bills etc. The Post Office is the binding agent that keeps the community

together. Closing it is a nail in the town's coffin, and it is only a matter of time before the town fades into extinction.

The Pace Post Office serves the Town of Pace, the Symonds community of approximately 200 residents about 3 miles north west of Pace and the surrounding rural area with another 40 to 50 residents. Pace has a total of 308 post office boxes plus it services a number of general delivery customers. The Postal Services states that closing the Pace Post Office is a \$52,479.00 annual savings to the postal services. Nothing is mentioned about what it will cost the citizens of Pace and surrounding area should the Post Office Close. Nor is it mentioned what it will cost to hire an extra mail carrier or at least extend the hours of a mail carrier now serving in the vicinity. The \$52,479.00 just does not justify closing the Post Office and taking away the town's postal autonomy.

Of the 500 plus customers from the Pace and surrounding area at least a 100 will go into Cleveland at least once per week for mail purposes. The Cleveland Post Office is 20 to 25 miles round trip from Pace. 25 miles times 100 people equals 2,500 miles per week times 52 weeks per year equals 130,000 miles @ about 20 miles per gallon of gasoline equals 6,500 gallons of gasoline per year times \$3.50 per gallon equals about \$22,750.00. Add this to the wear and tear to the automobiles plus the lost time going to the Cleveland Post Office couples with the increased danger of having to drive to Cleveland one can clearly see that closing the Pace Post Office is a disadvantage and a hardship both economically and physically. Going to Beulah is out of the question, they don't have any business establishments. The \$22,750.00 additional cost for gasoline to Pace residents, lost time plus the rural mail carrier's added salary/wages to serve Pace plus additional operating cost, gasoline, oil, customer mail boxes, etc. one can conclude it is more economical to keep the Pace Post Office open. One can also speculate that the cost savings quoted by the Postal Service of \$52,479.00, which have just been disproved, is more likely less than 1/1000th of the Postal Service's total annual budget.

In conclusion, on behalf of all of the citizens of Pace and surrounding services area I respectfully request that the Postal Regulatory Commission keep the Pace Post Office open for the posterity of Pace.

Sincerely,

THE TOWN OF PACE


Robert LeFlore, Sr.

Mayor

cc: Congressman Benny Thompson

A 2012-50

Tuesday, October 18th, 2011

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20268-0001

RECEIVED

2011 NOV -4 P 3:14

Re: Appeal the Closing of the Post Office
Located in Pace, Mississippi, Bolivar County

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Postal Service Regulatory Commissioner:

As a concerned citizen and as the Clerk of the Town of Pace, MS, a municipality, I do hereby protest the closing of the postal service located in Pace, Mississippi. Due to the serious impact it would have on the lives of the residents and Town business matters, the closing of the postal service would inconvenience the people and the Pace Town Hall in many ways.

The Town of Pace Mississippi has had a postal office building well over 70 years. The Town of Pace, Mississippi and the majority of people in the Town have economic problems. Many do not have transportation, are on government assistance and live in mobile homes. The closing would inconvenience the elderly, the sick and as well as the young. The hindrance of traveling to another location just to obtain mail, stamps, money orders, etc would be an unnecessary out-of-pocket expense. Also, taking into consideration the gas prices, this would cause a strain on the people. The community has expressed concern about mail being taken stolen from their boxes, particularly the elderly, should they have to resort to mail boxes in front of their homes.

The Pace Town Hall in Pace MS would be greatly impacted due to receiving, delivering, and purchasing accountable mail affiliated with town business matters. The Town Clerk sends out monthly water card correspondence, bills, tax correspondence and various other mail to the public and vendors. The Town receives volumes of heavy books, literature, magazines and various other items purchased through the mail for office use. The Town purchases over 500 regular stamps and over 300 post card stamps on a monthly basis for Town business. The inconveniences of not having a postal service have not been budgeted and therefore, would be added expenses for the Town. The inconveniences of not having a postal service building in the Town would also add to the many duties and responsibilities that the Town Clerk already have. Instead of walking next door, the Clerk would have to travel to another location to deliver, receive or purchase postal service mail items for the Town. Please allow the Town of Pace Post Office building to continue in the Town of Pace. We desperately need this post office building in our community.

With Sincere Appreciation,


Curtissia W. Allen, Town Clerk

Received

OCT 24 2011

Office of PAGR